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**BUREAU FOR DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

Democratic Republic of the Congo – Complex Emergency

Fact Sheet #6, Fiscal Year (FY) 2009

December 11, 2008

Note: The last fact sheet was dated December 4, 2008.

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- From December 8 to 10, the U.N. facilitated an initial round of direct talks in Nairobi, Kenya, between representatives of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the National Congress of the Defense of the People (CNDP) in an effort to formalize a ceasefire and advance a peace process for eastern DRC, according to international media reports.
- From December 6 to 8, the USAID/DCHA Assistant Administrator Michael Hess visited North Kivu Province, including Goma-area internally displaced person (IDP) camps, to discuss the current crisis and ongoing response efforts with humanitarian agencies and government officials. In discussions with the Assistant Administrator, implementing partners identified the need for improved security and camp coordination, as well as a strengthened peace process.
- On December 3, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) reported the single largest distribution of emergency of relief commodities under UNICEF's rapid response mechanism (RRM) to approximately 100,000 conflict-affected and displaced individuals in Rutshuru and Kiwanja, Rutshuru Territory. In FY 2009 to date, USAID/OFDA has provided nearly \$4 million in funding and commodities to support the RRM in North Kivu.
- USAID Disaster Assistance Response Team (USAID/DART) staff based in Goma continue to monitor population movements and assess humanitarian conditions in North Kivu Province, facilitate coordination and information sharing among U.N. and relief agencies, and work with implementing partners to address the needs of conflict-affected populations.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
North Kivu IDPs since August 2008	252,000	OCHA ¹ – November 2008
Total North Kivu IDPs	1,000,000	OCHA – November 2008
Congolese Refugees since August 2008	30,000	UNHCR ² – December 2008
Total Congolese Refugees	310,000	UNHCR – November 2008

FY 2009 AND FY 2008 HUMANITARIAN FUNDING PROVIDED TO DATE

USAID/OFDA Assistance to DRC.....	\$23,191,178
USAID/FFP ³ Assistance to DRC	\$100,973,000
STATE/PRM ⁴ Assistance to DRC	\$33,989,988
Total USAID and State Assistance to DRC	\$158,154,166

CURRENT SITUATION

- Sporadic clashes between armed opposition groups and government forces in North Kivu Province continue to contribute to population movements, looting, and general insecurity. According to UNHCR, CNDP forces remain in close proximity to the provincial capital of Goma, located approximately 13 km from the city. In addition, fighting between CNDP and the Mai-Mai militia group Patriotes Resistants Congolais (PARECO) in Rutshuru Territory resulted in the evacuation of humanitarian staff from Kishishe on December 3, according to OCHA. USAID/DART staff also highlight that insecurity continues to impede humanitarian access to Kanyabayonga, Kayna, and Kirumba in Lubero Territory.
- USAID/DART staff and implementing partners report that road damage and inadequate infrastructure in Masisi Territory also present significant challenges for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to an estimated 25,000 IDPs displaced by recent insecurity. Damage to the Sake–Masisi road has disrupted commercial transport resulting in a lack of basic products and commodity price increases in Masisi town and surrounding areas, as well as Goma.

¹ U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

² Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

³ USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

⁴ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

Displacement

- Humanitarian agencies continue to identify new IDP populations in need of assistance in both spontaneous and existing camps. However, pervasive insecurity remains an impediment to accurate population movement estimates and tracking. Current U.N. estimates identify 252,000 newly displaced persons since August 2008, including more than 76,000 IDPs in Lubero Territory and approximately 33,000 people in Beni Territory. However, many of the displaced represent existing IDPs displaced for a second time and population movements are ongoing in the current security environment. USAID/DART staff note continued efforts to coordinate and align IDP information within the humanitarian community.
- In Goma, the number of spontaneous IDP sites has increased from 7 to 29 since early November, according to humanitarian agencies operating in the area. Many sites lack adequate sanitation facilities, contributing to concerns regarding the spread of cholera. OCHA estimates that approximately 12,500 IDPs currently remain in Goma.

Health

- In a December 5 report, UNICEF highlighted progress in addressing recent outbreaks of cholera and measles in North Kivu Province, following augmented water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) interventions and the launch of an emergency measles vaccination campaign in recent weeks.
- Between the weeks of November 23 and November 30, UNICEF noted a decline in reported cholera and measles cases in North Kivu Province from 616 to 330 and 140 to 14 cases, respectively.
- On November 28, UNICEF released the findings from a joint UNICEF and Save the Children nutrition screening of children in Musienene, Butembo, Katwa and Masisi health zones in North Kivu. Results identified acute malnutrition in 10 percent of children in Masisi health zone. UNICEF and implementing partners continue to support therapeutic and supplementary feeding centers in affected areas.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On October 15, 2008, U.S. Chargé d’Affaires Samuel V. Brock redeclared a disaster in response to the ongoing humanitarian emergency in the DRC.
- In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/OFDA has provided more than \$23 million in humanitarian assistance to the DRC, primarily targeting beneficiaries in North Kivu and South Kivu provinces. At present, USAID/OFDA is supporting programs in nutrition, health, agriculture, food security, logistics and relief commodities, economy and market systems, protection, water, sanitation, and hygiene, and shelter and settlements. USAID/OFDA maintains two permanent program officers in DRC.
- In FY 2008 and to date in FY 2009, USAID/FFP has provided nearly \$101 million to meet the food needs of conflict-affected persons throughout eastern DRC, including 63,810 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food assistance and funding for administrative support. In addition, USAID/FFP maintains a permanent FFP officer in the DRC responsible for monitoring food security-related activities.
- State/PRM provided nearly \$34 million to UNHCR, WFP, and NGO partners for protection and assistance and repatriation and reintegration programs benefiting returning refugees, IDPs, and host communities in FY 2008.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC IN FY 2009 AND FY 2008

FY 2009			
Implementing Partner	Activity	Location	Amount
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE¹			
Handicap International	Economy and Market Systems	South Kivu Province	\$150,000
Merlin	Health, Nutrition, Protection, and WASH	North Kivu Province	\$750,000
U.N. Children’s Fund (UNICEF)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	North Kivu Province, Orientale Province	\$3,867,651
	Administrative Support	Countrywide	\$128,820
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$4,896,471

USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
U.N. World Food Program (WFP)	20,870 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Katanga, North Kivu, South Kivu, Orientale, Maniema, and Equateur Provinces	\$29,958,900
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$29,958,900
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC IN FY 2009			\$34,855,371
FY 2008			
<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Activity</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>
USAID/OFDA ASSISTANCE			
Air Service International (ASI)	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$4,449,269
Concern	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, and Logistics and Relief Commodities	North Kivu Province	\$784,398
German Agro Action (GAA)	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems	Ituri Province	\$1,646,047
Handicap International	Health	North Kivu Province	\$416,494
International Medical Corps (MC)	Health, WASH, Nutrition, and Protection	North Kivu Province	\$2,820,203
International Rescue Committee (IRC)	Health, Protection, and WASH	North Kivu Province	\$2,000,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	North Kivu Province	\$772,872
Merlin	Health, Nutrition, Protection, and WASH	North Kivu Province	\$842,953
Première Urgence	Agriculture and Food Security, Economy and Market Systems, Protection	North Kivu Province	\$2,071,058
UNICEF	Logistics and Relief Commodities	Countrywide	\$500,000
UNHCR	Shelter and Settlements	North Kivu Province	\$1,000,000
	Administrative Support	Countrywide	\$991,413
TOTAL USAID/OFDA			\$18,294,707
USAID/FFP ASSISTANCE²			
WFP	42,940 MT of P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Katanga, North Kivu, South Kivu, Orientale, Maniema, and Equateur Provinces	\$68,972,700
Food for the Hungry International (FHI)	Administrative Support for P.L. 480 Title II Emergency Food Assistance	Katanga Province	\$2,041,400
TOTAL USAID/FFP			\$71,014,100
STATE/PRM ASSISTANCE			
ACTED	Refugee Assistance, Livelihoods	Katanga Province	\$1,000,000

Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Shelter and Settlements	South Kivu Province	\$698,057
Africa Humanitarian Action (AHA)	Health	Katanga Province	\$20,000
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture and Food Security	Katanga Province	\$900,000
Center for Victims of Torture (CVT)	Psychosocial Services	Katanga Province	\$897,285
FHI	Agriculture and Food Security, Health	Katanga Province	\$1,173,463
International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC)	Emergency Relief for IDPs and Conflict Victims	Countrywide	\$8,500,000
IMC	Health, WASH, Protection	South Kivu Province	\$1,500,000
International Organization for Migration (IOM)	Refugee Repatriation from Zambia	Katanga Province	\$500,000
Tearfund	Education	South Kivu Province	\$941,183
UNHCR	Refugee Assistance and Repatriation, Protection	Countrywide	\$12,300,000
UNHCR	IDP Assistance, Protection	Countrywide	\$5,160,000
WFP	Agriculture and Food Security, Refugee Assistance	Katanga Province, South Kivu Province	\$400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM			\$33,989,988
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC IN FY 2008			\$89,308,807
TOTAL USAID AND STATE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC IN FY 2008			\$123,298,795
FY 2008 AND FY 2009			
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FY 2008 AND FY 2009			\$23,191,178
TOTAL USAID/FFP FY 2008 AND FY 2009			\$100,973,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FY 2008 AND FY 2009			\$33,989,988
TOTAL USG FY 2008 AND FY 2009 HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO DRC			\$158,154,166

¹ USAID/OFDA funding represents anticipated or actual obligated amounts as of December 11, 2008.

² Estimated value of food assistance.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. Information on organizations responding to the humanitarian situation in the DRC may be available at www.reliefweb.int.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, warehouse space, etc); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID: www.usaid.gov – Keyword: Donations
 - The Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or (703) 276-1914
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at www.reliefweb.int

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/our_work/humanitarian_assistance/disaster_assistance/